

St. Luke's & St. John's

Proclaiming Christ in Devon

Dearest friends,

In the second week of Advent we light our second candle... the Bethlehem Candle. In lighting it we pray that we may join Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem.

Our journey this week is about preparation.

Mary and Joseph were preparing for the birth of their son. I imagine they were like any parents... planning and dreaming about their future as a family. Worrying if they've got everything ready.

I can picture them sat with family - smiling at the pictures in their minds as they dreamt of the future. I can see them as they wonder if they've got everything, talking with each other and figuring out if everything is ready for the birth.

It's easy to picture because I've been there - as a father to Edmund - sat in the living room with Cathairne planning and worrying about nappies, about cots, about car seats and about hundreds of other things.

It's a picture of Christmas in so many ways. We run from A to B worried that we've missed something or someone. Worried about having enough food. Worried about money.

The journey is fraught with worry... but we shouldn't lose sight of the fact that the journey is also rich with dreams of the future.

Mary and Joseph were bringing Jesus into the world. Our Saviour.

It was not the birth they planned, but it was awesome nonetheless.

Perhaps in their journey, we can see a path to peace in our own journey.

In love,

Fr. Matthew

Notices

Christmas Explorers

It would be wonderful if you could find time to come to Explorers on the afternoon of the 7th. We're expecting a lot of people as there'll be a special visit from a certain St. Nicholas! Any help would be very much appreciated. 3-5pm

Second Advent Lecture

This Thursday (4th) - a talk on the Christian theology and perspective on the Assisted Death. (7pm, Wickham Hall).

Bay Brass Band Concert

Sadly, Bay Brass Band have been in touch this week to let me know they've not been able



to secure enough players for their concert at St. Luke's and have very sadly had to cancel it.

Dates for next year

I'm starting to populate dates for January, one of the important ones is the 15th January at St. Luke's, where we'll have (our now) customary planning meeting for the coming term, in this case Spring & Easter. It's also a chance to review the Autumn and Christmas term and see if there are any lessons to learn or new ideas for next year.

Choice Words

Come visit Choice Words, the largest second-hand Christian bookshop in the southwest! We are open 9.30am-4.30pm Monday through to Saturday. You can find us at 71 Queen St. Newton Abbot, or call us on 01626 334 027, or email us at, shop@choicewords.co.uk

New Mass Setting

Well done, everyone who came for the rehearsal before Mass last Sunday. It's a setting for Advent, we have a new one for Ordinary Time. I pray you use this opportunity to re-engage with the liturgy in joy.

Today

Sunday 7th December

2nd Sunday of Advent ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]
 11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]
 3pm - Explorers [SC]

Psalter Week 2, A(II), Advent 2

Upcoming Dates

December

4th - Advent Course, 2nd lecture, 7pm [WH]
 7th - Explorers & Christingle, 3-5pm [SC]
 11th - Advent Course, 3rd lecture, 7pm [WH]
 18th - Advent Course, 4th lecture, 7pm [WH]
 20th - 9 Lessons & Carols, 6pm, both churches
 21st - Christingle & Crib Service, 3-5pm [SL]
 Solemn Evensong with Benediction, 7pm [SJ]
 24th - Live Nativity, 4pm [SJ]
 Midnight Mass, 8pm [SJ]
 Midnight Mass, 11:30pm [SL]
 25th - Christmas Day Mass, 10am [SL & SJ]

January

7th - St. Luke's PCC
 15th - Joint Planning Meeting for Spring & Easter, 7pm [SL]
 24th - Rosary Group, 10am [SL]
 26th - History of the Anglo Catholics Talk, 6pm [SL]
 31st - Burns Night Supper [SL]

Table Top Sale at Wickham Hall every 3rd Saturday at 10am.
 St. Luke's Women's Group meets first Wednesday of every month.

[SJ] St. John's | [SL] St. Luke's | [WH] Wickham Hall
 [SC] St. Catherine's School

The week ahead:

Monday 8th December

The Immaculate Conception of the BVM ●

10am - Mass of Our Lady [SL]

Prayer focus: Our Clergy

Tuesday 9th December

Tuesday of the 2nd week of Advent ●

9:45am - Morning Prayer [SJ]

10am - Said Mass [SJ]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. Luke's

Wednesday 10th December

Wednesday of the 1st week of Advent ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

Prayer focus: The Parish of St. John's

Thursday 11th December

Thursday of the 1st week of Advent ●

10am - Said Mass [SL]

7pm - Advent Course, Week 3 Lecture [WH]

Prayer focus: The Mission of St. Luke's and St. John's

Friday 12th December

Friday of the 1st week of Advent ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: Children in hospital

Saturday 13th December

Saint Lucy, Virgin, Martyr ●

[prayers offered at home]

Prayer focus: All Families

Sunday 14th December

3rd Sunday of Advent ●

9am - Sung Parish Mass [SJ]

11:15am - Sung Parish Mass [SL]

Psalter Week 3, A(II), Advent 3

Please pray for:

Sr Sylvia, Phil and Jean, Rosemary, Simon Stevenette, Alan Randall, Peter Thompson, Steve Jefferies, Eileen Skinner, Bryan, Vicky Pearce, Mark, Glad & Stan, Carol & Sophie, Pam, Sue King, Marilyn, Arthur Pengelly, Jennifer Benney, Viv & Lyn, Bob Julian, David, Cliff and all those who have asked for our prayers.

Pray for the souls of:

Jill Stonnal, Brenda Silsby and the souls of all those whose anniversary of death falls this week.

Father Matthew Cashmore

father@slsj.co.uk

07555 924862

Churchwardens

[SL] Mr David Dunn - david@slsj.co.uk

[SJ] Elizabeth Brooks - elizabethbrookso86@gmail.com

Associate Clergy

Fr Christopher Robins, Fr Robin Eastoe SSC

Fr Alan White and Deacon David Rogers